

Fiscal impact reports (FIRs) are prepared by the Legislative Finance Committee (LFC) for standing finance committees of the NM Legislature. The LFC does not assume responsibility for the accuracy of these reports if they are used for other purposes.

Current FIRs (in HTML & Adobe PDF formats) are available on the NM Legislative Website (legis.state.nm.us). Adobe PDF versions include all attachments, whereas HTML versions may not. Previously issued FIRs and attachments may be obtained from the LFC in Suite 101 of the State Capitol Building North.

## FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

ORIGINAL DATE 1/18/08

SPONSOR Begaye LAST UPDATED \_\_\_\_\_ HB 61

SHORT TITLE Navajo Code Talker Museum and Veterans' Center SB \_\_\_\_\_

ANALYST Earnest

### APPROPRIATION (dollars in thousands)

Appropriation		Recurring or Non-Rec	Fund Affected
FY08	FY09		
	\$500.0	Non-recurring	General Fund

(Parenthesis ( ) Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

### SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files

#### Responses Received From

Economic Development Department  
Veterans' Services Department

### SUMMARY

#### Synopsis of Bill

House Bill 61 appropriates \$500 thousand from the general fund to the Economic Development Department to conduct, in coordination with the Veterans' Services Department, a feasibility study for and to plan, design and construct a Navajo code talkers' museum, veterans' center and national cemetery.

### FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

The appropriation of \$500 thousand contained in this bill is a nonrecurring expense to the general fund. Any unexpended or unencumbered balance remaining at the end of fiscal year 2009 shall revert to the general fund.

### SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

According to EDD, the study would ascertain the impact to the local economy of a new code talkers museum, visitor center, and cemetery. The study would help determine the impact on tourism, local jobs, and economic development of an already depressed area of the state.

**House Bill 61 – Page 2**

The appropriation is for a feasibility study and planning, design and construction. It isn't clear that \$500 thousand is enough funding to complete the project.

**ALTERNATIVES**

The bill could appropriate funding solely for a feasibility study, which would help determine the necessary amount of funding needed for planning, design and construction.

BE/bb